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Neutron diffraction in gemmology:

30 **Single-crystal diffraction study of brazilianite, $\text{NaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4$**

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41

42 **Abstract**

43 The chemical composition and the crystal structure of a gem-quality brazilianite
44 from the Telírio pegmatite, near Linópolis, Minas Gerais, Brazil, $[\text{NaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4]$, a
45 $= 11.2448(5)$ Å, $b = 10.1539(6)$ Å, $c = 7.1031(3)$ Å, $\beta = 97.351(4)^\circ$, $V = 804.36(7)$ Å³,
46 space group $P2_1/n$, $Z = 4$], have been reinvestigated by means of electron microprobe
47 analysis in wavelength dispersive mode, single-crystal X-ray and neutron diffraction.
48 The chemical analysis shows that brazilianite from Telírio Claim approaches almost
49 ideal composition. The neutron anisotropic structural refinement was performed with
50 final agreement index $R_1 = 0.0290$ for 211 refined parameters and 2844 unique
51 reflections with $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$, the X-ray refinement led to $R_1 = 0.0325$ for 169 refined
52 parameters and 2430 unique reflections with $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$. The building-block units of
53 the brazilianite structure consist of chains of edge-sharing $\text{AlO}_4(\text{OH})_2$ and $\text{AlO}_3(\text{OH})_3$
54 octahedra. Chains are connected, via corner-sharing, by P-tetrahedra to form a three-
55 dimensional framework, with Na atoms located in distorted cavities running along
56 $[100]$. Five independent H sites were located, here labelled as H(1), H(2a), H(2b), H(3)
57 and H(4). The configuration of the OH groups, along with the complex hydrogen
58 bonding scheme, are now well defined. The O-H distances corrected for “riding motion”

59 range between ~ 0.992 Å and ~ 1.010 Å, the O \cdots O distances between ~ 2.67 Å and ~ 2.93
60 Å, and the O–H \cdots O angles between $\sim 151^\circ$ and $\sim 174^\circ$. The H(2a) and H(2b) are only
61 ~ 1.37 Å apart and mutually exclusive (both with site occupancy factor of 50%). The
62 differences between the crystal structure of brazilianite and wardite (ideally
63 $\text{NaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) are discussed. This work fulfils the need for accurate crystal
64 chemical data for this gem mineral.

65

66 **Key-words:** brazilianite, crystal chemistry, single-crystal neutron diffraction, hydrogen
67 bonding.

68

69 **Introduction**

70 Brazilianite, ideally $\text{NaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4$, commonly forms equant to elongated
71 monoclinic crystals with yellow to yellowish-green color, mainly found in large pockets
72 in the *platy albite* (cleavelandite) units of granitic pegmatites. In granitic pegmatites,
73 brazilianite is considered to form as a product of Na-metasomatic alteration of
74 montebrasite-amblygonite. The type locality of this mineral, from which the name
75 brazilianite, is the Corrego Frio pegmatite, Minas Gerais, Brazil, where it was first
76 discovered in 1944 (Pough and Henderson 1945; Pecora and Fahey 1949). Brazilianite
77 also occurs in phosphate-rich sedimentary deposits, *e.g.* Yukon Territories, Big Fish
78 River, Stoneham Camp.

79 Brazilianite usually occurs in the form of perfect crystals (typically short
80 prismatic, spearhead shaped, elongated along [100], usually with {011}, { $\bar{1}11$ }, {010},
81 {110}, { $\bar{1}01$ }, and {101}), grouped in druses and rarely as larger gem-quality crystals
82 (Pough and Henderson 1945; Hurlbut and Weichel 1946; Frondel and Lindberg 1948;
83 Pecora and Fahey 1949, Macri 2011). The most important deposit of brazilianite is in

84 the surroundings of Conselheiro Pena, in the state of Minas Gerais. During the past few
85 years, this deposit has yielded a great quantity of beautiful raw material, including dark
86 greenish-yellow to olive-green crystals of surprisingly large dimensions (*i.e.* up to 10
87 cm in length and width) and perfectly bounded crystal faces. Crystals of similar shape
88 and dimensions were discovered in another deposit in Minas Gerais, near Mantena.
89 Minor deposits are those at the Palermo #1 Mine and G.E. Smith mine in New
90 Hampshire, USA. Brazilianite is one of the few phosphate minerals to be used as a
91 gemstone (along with amblygonite, turquoise and some gem varieties of apatite), and is
92 relatively new to the gemstones market. The Mohs hardness of brazilianite is 5.5. The
93 refraction indexes for the α , β , and γ rays are 1.602, 1.609 and 1.621-1.623,
94 respectively. It is biaxial positive, with a birefringence of 0.019-0.021, and the
95 dispersion is low (O'Donoghue 2006).

96 Only a few studies have so far been devoted to the crystal chemistry of
97 brazilianite (Fronzel and Lindberg 1948, and references therein). Its crystal structure
98 was solved by Gatehouse and Miskin (1974), on the basis of single-crystal X-ray
99 diffraction data, in the space group $P2_1/n$, with $a \sim 11.23 \text{ \AA}$, $b \sim 10.14 \text{ \AA}$, $c \sim 7.10 \text{ \AA}$, and
100 $\beta \sim 97.4^\circ$ ($Z = 4$). Its structure consists of chains of edge-sharing Al-octahedra linked by
101 P-tetrahedra forming a three-dimensional network, with Na atoms located in cavities
102 parallel to [100] (Fig. 1). In the structure model of Gatehouse and Miskin (1974), there
103 are two different configurations of the Al-octahedra: *trans*- $\text{AlO}_4(\text{OH})_2$ and *trans*-
104 $\text{AlO}_3(\text{OH})_3$.

105 The general structure model of brazilianite reported by Gatehouse and Miskin
106 (1974) appears to be consistent. However, the refinement included anisotropic
107 displacement parameters only for the cation sites. In addition, the positions of the four
108 independent proton sites appear to be affected by high uncertainties, as expected for X-

109 ray refinements at that time, and the isotropic thermal parameters were not refined. This
110 led to a poor description of the complex H-bonding scheme in the brazilianite crystal
111 structure. In this light, the aim of the present study is a reinvestigation of the crystal
112 structure and crystal chemistry of a natural brazilianite (from Telírio) at ambient
113 temperature by means of single-crystal X-ray and neutron diffraction and electron
114 microprobe analysis in wavelength dispersive mode, in order to provide: *a*) the reliable
115 location of the proton sites and the real topological configuration of the OH-groups, for
116 a full description of the atomic relationship via the H-bonds; *b*) the anisotropic
117 displacement parameters of all the atomic sites, H-sites included. This experiment
118 follows a series of crystal structure investigations we have recently performed on
119 gemstone minerals containing light elements (H, Li, Be, B) by single-crystal neutron
120 diffraction (Gatta et al. 2010, 2012a, 2012b), a method offering definite advantages in
121 these cases (Rinaldi et al. 2009).

122

123 **Samples description and mineralogy**

124 A prismatic single-crystal of pale yellow, gem-quality brazilianite (18 mm
125 length and 5 mm width) from the Telírio pegmatite, near the village of Linópolis (not
126 far from the Corrego Frio mine, type locality for brazilianite), in the Divino das
127 Laranjeiras district (Minas Gerais, Brazil), was used for the chemical analysis and for
128 the diffraction experiments of this study. The pegmatite field of East Minas Gerais is
129 hosted by metamorphic rocks, belonging to the Precambrian shield, and consists of
130 beryl- to complex-type granitic pegmatites, following the classification of Černý and
131 Ercit (2005), which are rich in gemstones. Such pegmatites are mined by local miners
132 (frequently a single mine, *garimpo*, is owned and mined by a single family of miners
133 locally called *garimpeiros*) for gemstones (*e.g.* beryl, topaz, tourmaline). The Telírio

134 dike is a zoned pegmatite, with a well-developed Na-metasomatic unit and large pockets
135 in cleavelandite containing brazilianite crystals up to 10 cm. The brazilianite crystal
136 used in this study was perched on platy albite (3 x 3 x 2 cm of cleavelandite) and closely
137 associated with zanzaziite crystals (up to 3 mm).

138

139 **Experimental methods**

140 A preliminary check of the crystal of brazilianite chosen for this study was done
141 under polarized light, showing that it was free of twinning, growth sectors or inclusions.
142 The crystal was then cut into several pieces, in order to perform chemical analysis, X-
143 ray and neutron diffraction experiments.

144 One fragment of the original single-crystal of brazilianite was used for the
145 quantitative electron microprobe analysis in wavelength dispersive mode (EPMA-WDS)
146 using a Jeol JXA-8200 electron microprobe at the Earth Science Department of the
147 University of Milano (ESD-UMI). The crystal fragment was mounted in epoxy resin,
148 polished and carbon coated. Major and minor elements were determined at 15 kV
149 accelerating voltage, 5 nA beam current, and 3 μm beam diameter using a counting time
150 of 30 sec on the peaks and 10 sec on the backgrounds. The following elements were
151 analyzed: P, Al, Fe, Mn, Ba, Sr, Ca, Mg, Na, K, F and Cl, using a series of well
152 characterized natural minerals as standards (grafonite for P, anorthite for Al, fayalite
153 for Fe, rhodonite for Mn, barite for Ba, celestine for Sr, wollastonite for Ca, forsterite
154 for Mg, omphacite for Na, K-feldspar for K, topaz for F and sodalite for Cl). The data
155 were corrected for matrix effects using a conventional $\Phi\rho Z$ routine available in the Jeol
156 suite of programs. A total number of 16 point analysis were performed, and the crystal
157 was found to be homogeneous within the analytical error. The average chemical
158 composition and the proportional formula are given in Table 1.

159 Two further fragments of the original large crystal, of approximately 4.2 x 3.6 x
160 2.8 mm³ and 0.35 x 0.32 x 0.20 mm³, were selected for the neutron and X-ray
161 diffraction experiments, respectively. X-ray intensity data were collected at 293 K and
162 up to $2\theta_{\max} = 72.67^\circ$ (with $-18 \leq h \leq 18$, $-13 \leq k \leq 13$ and $-11 \leq l \leq 11$, Table 2) with an
163 Xcalibur diffractometer at the ESD-UMI, equipped with CCD, monochromatized Mo-
164 $K\alpha$ radiation and operated at 50 kV and 40 mA. The data collection was performed with
165 a combination of φ/ω scans, step size of 1° and an exposure time of 5 s/frame. A total
166 number of 20604 Bragg reflections (with a high degree of redundancy) were collected,
167 giving a metrically monoclinic unit-cell with: $a = 11.2448(5)$, $b = 10.1539(6)$, $c =$
168 $7.1031(3)$ Å, $\beta = 97.351(4)^\circ$ and $V = 804.4$ Å³ (Table 2). The systematic absences
169 suggested the space group $P2_1/n$, as previously reported by Gatehouse and Miskin
170 (1974). The intensity data were then integrated and corrected for Lorentz-polarization
171 effects, using the computer program CrysAlis (Agilent Technologies 2012). An
172 analytical absorption correction was applied by Gaussian integration based upon the
173 physical description of the crystal (CrysAlis, Agilent Technologies 2012). After the
174 corrections, the discrepancy factors among symmetry-related reflections (Laue class:
175 $2/m$) was $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0392$ (Table 2).

176 The single-crystal neutron diffraction experiment was performed using the hot
177 source (fast neutrons) single-crystal diffractometer HEiDi of the neutron source
178 Forschungs-Neutronenquelle Heinz Maier-Leibnitz (FRM II). The diffraction data were
179 collected at 293 K, with a wavelength of the incident beam of 0.7935(2) Å. A ³He single
180 counter detector was used [Eurisys 73NH17/5X end window counter, 50 mm entrance
181 window, 5 bar ³He pressure and 170 mm active length for high detection probability
182 (>99% at 1.0 Å), separation of γ radiation by pulse height discrimination]. The unit-cell
183 parameters were refined on the basis of the 40 Bragg reflections. A total number of

184 6321 reflections were collected (with $-18 \leq h \leq 18$, $-16 \leq k \leq 16$ and $-11 \leq l \leq 11$,
185 rocking ($= \omega$) scans below and $\omega/2\theta$ scans above $2\theta = 55^\circ$, $2\theta_{\max} = 80.07^\circ$, Table 2). The
186 reflection conditions agreed with the space group $P2_1/n$. Integrated intensities were then
187 corrected for Lorentz effect, and no absorption correction was applied, because of the
188 shape and the dimensions of the sample. The discrepancy factor for the symmetry
189 related reflections was $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0261$. Further details of the data collection are reported in
190 Table 2.

191

192 **Structure refinements**

193 The X-ray intensity data of brazilianite were first processed with the program E-
194 STATISTICS, implemented in the WinGX package (Farrugia 1999). The Wilson plot
195 and the statistics of distributions of the normalized structure factors (E 's) suggested that
196 the structure of brazilianite is centrosymmetric at 84.3 % likelihood. On this basis, and
197 considering the reflections conditions, the anisotropic crystal structure refinement was
198 then performed in the space group $P2_1/n$ using the SHELX-97 software (Sheldrick
199 1997, 2008), starting from the structure model of Gatehouse and Miskin (1974). The
200 neutral scattering factors of Na, Al, P, O, and H were used according to the
201 *International Tables of Crystallography* (Wilson and Prince, 1999). The secondary
202 isotropic extinction effect was corrected according to Larson's formalism (1967), as
203 implemented in the SHELXL-97 package (Sheldrick 1997, 2008). The first cycles of
204 refinement were conducted without any H site. When convergence was achieved, no
205 significant correlation was observed among the refined parameters in the variance-
206 covariance matrix. All the principal mean square atomic displacement parameters were
207 positively defined. The last cycles of refinement were conducted adding the H-sites on
208 the basis of the neutron structure refinement (see below), and their coordinates were not

209 refined. At the end of the last cycle of refinement, no peak larger than $+0.4/-0.4 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$
210 was present in the final difference-Fourier map of the electron density (Table 2). The
211 final agreement index (R_1) was 0.0325 for 169 refined parameters and 2430 unique
212 reflections with $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$ (Table 2). Site positions and displacement parameters (U_{ij})
213 are reported in Table 3a. Principal root-mean-square components of the atomic
214 displacement parameters are given in Table 4a. Bond lengths and angles are listed in
215 Tables 5.

216 The single-crystal neutron diffraction data of brazilianite were first processed
217 following the same protocol described for the X-ray data. The structure was found to be
218 centrosymmetric at 96.2 % likelihood. The anisotropic structure refinement was then
219 performed in the space group $P2_1/n$ using the SHELX-97 software (Sheldrick 1997,
220 2008), starting from the atomic coordinates of the model of Gatehouse and Miskin
221 (1974) without any H site. The neutron scattering lengths of Na, Al, P, O, and H were
222 used according to Sears (1986). The secondary isotropic extinction effect was corrected
223 according to Larson (1967). When convergence was achieved, five intense negative
224 residual peaks were found in the final difference-Fourier map of the nuclear density. As
225 hydrogen has a negative neutron scattering length, further refinement cycles were then
226 performed assigning H to these residual peaks (*i.e.* H(1), H(2a), H(2b), H(3) and H(4)
227 sites; Fig. 2, Table 3b). The final least-square cycles were conducted with anisotropic
228 thermal parameters for all sites (H-sites included). The convergence was achieved with
229 all the principal mean square atomic displacement parameters positively defined. The
230 variance-covariance matrix showed no significant correlation among the refined
231 parameters at the end of the refinement. No peak larger than $+0.9/-0.9 \text{ fm}/\text{\AA}^3$ was
232 present in the final difference-Fourier map of the nuclear density (Table 2). The final
233 agreement index (R_1) was 0.0290 for 211 refined parameters and 2844 unique

234 reflections with $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$ (Table 2). Atomic positions and displacement parameters
235 (U_{ij}) are listed in Table 3b. Principal root-mean-square components of the atomic
236 displacement parameters are given in Table 4b. Bond lengths and angles are listed in
237 Tables 5.

238

239 **Discussion and Conclusions**

240 The EPMA-WDS analysis shows that our sample of brazilianite from Telírio
241 approaches an almost ideal composition (*i.e.* $\text{NaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4$). Na can partially be
242 replaced by K (or Ca). Some Fe^{3+} and Mg may replace Al at the octahedral sites (Table
243 1).

244 The single-crystal X-ray and neutron structure refinements of this study confirm
245 the general structure model of brazilianite described by Gatehouse and Miskin (1974).
246 The building-block units of the brazilianite structure consist of chains of edge sharing
247 *trans*- $\text{AlO}_4(\text{OH})_2$ (*i.e.* around Al(2)) and *trans*- $\text{AlO}_3(\text{OH})_3$ (*i.e.* about Al(1) and Al(3))
248 octahedra. The two chains are connected, via corner-sharing, by P-tetrahedra to form a
249 three-dimensional framework, with Na atoms located in distorted cavities running along
250 [100] (Fig. 1). The Na-polyhedron, here described with a coordination number of 9
251 (with $\text{Na-O}_{\text{max}} \sim 3.11 \text{ \AA}$; Fig. 2, Table 5), is strongly distorted. Gatehouse and Miskin
252 (1974) suggested that the distortion of the Na-polyhedron might be due to the H sites in
253 the [100]-cavity: the effect of mutual repulsion forces the Na site to one side of the
254 cavity, leading to a stronger Na-O interaction with oxygen sites on one side of the cavity
255 than on the other. This can now be confirmed by our neutron structure refinement, since
256 $\text{Na} - \text{H}(4)$ distance is $\sim 3.06 \text{ \AA}$, $\text{Na} - \text{H}(3)$ is $\sim 3.16 \text{ \AA}$ and $\text{Na} - \text{H}(2)$ is $\sim 3.21 \text{ \AA}$, and
257 H(4), H(3) and H(2) lie on the same side of the cavity. Both the X-ray and neutron
258 structure refinements show that the Al-octahedra appear to be significantly distorted,

259 with $\Delta[\text{Al}(1)\text{-O}]_{\text{max}} \sim 0.32 \text{ \AA}$, $\Delta[\text{Al}(2)\text{-O}]_{\text{max}} \sim 0.31 \text{ \AA}$, and $\Delta[\text{Al}(3)\text{-O}]_{\text{max}} \sim 0.17 \text{ \AA}$ (*i.e.*
260 the difference between the longest and the shortest Al-O distances, based on the X-ray
261 structure refinement) (Table 5). The longest Al-O bond distances are those with the
262 bridging oxygen shared between two Al-octahedra and one P-tetrahedron (*i.e.* O(6) and
263 O(7), Table 5). The shortest Al-O bond distances are those with oxygen atoms of OH-
264 groups (*i.e.* O(1), O(2), O(3) and O(4), Table 5). P-tetrahedra appear to be less distorted,
265 as $\Delta[\text{P}(1)\text{-O}]_{\text{max}} \sim 0.044 \text{ \AA}$ and $\Delta[\text{P}(2)\text{-O}]_{\text{max}} \sim 0.036 \text{ \AA}$ (*i.e.* the difference between the
266 longest and the shortest P-O distances, based on the X-ray structure refinement) (Table
267 5).

268 The neutron structure refinement of this study provides an unambiguous location
269 of the H-sites, allowing the description of the H-bonding scheme in the brazilianite
270 structure. Five independent H sites were located, here labelled H(1), H(2a), H(2b), H(3)
271 and H(4). The configuration of the OH groups (*i.e.* O(1)–H(1), O(2)–H(2a), O(2)–
272 H(2b), O(3)–H(3), O(4)–H(4)), along with the hydrogen bonding scheme, are now well
273 defined (Fig. 2, Table 5). O(1), O(2), O(3) and O(4) act as *donors*, whereas O(2), O(4),
274 O(9) and O(12) as *acceptors*. Symmetry-related O(2) act both as *donor* and as *acceptor*
275 of H-bonds. The O-H distances corrected for “riding motion” (Busing and Levy 1964),
276 range between $\sim 0.992 \text{ \AA}$ and $\sim 1.010 \text{ \AA}$, the O \cdots O distances between $\sim 2.67 \text{ \AA}$ and ~ 2.93
277 \AA , and the O–H \cdots O angles between $\sim 151^\circ$ and $\sim 174^\circ$ (Table 5). The H(2a) and H(2b)
278 are only $\sim 1.37 \text{ \AA}$ apart. The neutron structure refinement was carried out without any
279 restraint on the site occupancy factors (*s.o.f.*) of H(2a) and H(2b), leading to *s.o.f.*(H2a)
280 = 0.546(6) and *s.o.f.*(H2b) = 0.446(6), respectively (Table 3b). We can thus consider a
281 general *s.o.f.* of 50% each for H(2a) and H(2b), therefore the two H-sites are mutually
282 exclusive. Additional test refinements were performed in order to check if this H-site
283 splitting reflects a lower symmetry than $P2_1/n$, but without success. The key to

284 understand the splitting of H(2a) and H(2b) in two mutually exclusive sites is in the H-
285 bonding scheme of the structure. In fact, if only one “virtual” H(2) site should occur,
286 located between H(2a) and H(2b), it would have an energetically unfavourable H-bond
287 configuration, with $O(2)-H(2)\cdots O(9) \sim 113^\circ$ and $O(2)-H(2)\cdots O(2) \sim 127^\circ$, whereas the
288 split site configuration yields $O(2)-H(2a)\cdots O(9) \sim 151^\circ$ and $O(2)-H(2b)\cdots O(2) \sim 171^\circ$
289 (Table 5).

290 The principal root-mean-square components of the atomic displacement
291 parameters of the H sites show a slightly pronounced anisotropy, in particular for the
292 H(2b) and H(3) sites (Table 4b). Both the X-ray and the neutron structure refinements
293 show that: *a*) the Na site has the highest displacement anisotropy, about the equilibrium
294 position, among the cation sites, and *b*) O(5), O(8), O(9) and O(10) sites have the
295 highest anisotropy among all the oxygen sites, and they are all bridging oxygen between
296 P-tetrahedra and Al-octahedra (Tables 4a, 4b and 5).

297 It is interesting to point out how the structure of brazilianite and that of wardite
298 (ideally $NaAl_3(PO_4)_2(OH)_4 \cdot 2H_2O$, Fanfani et al. 1974) are significantly different, as
299 highlighted by Gatehouse and Miskin (1974), despite the “chemical similarity”. As in
300 brazilianite, also in wardite the primary building units are P-tetrahedra and Al-
301 octahedra. However, in wardite P-tetrahedra join the sheets of corner-linked Al-
302 octahedra, whereas in brazilianite edge-sharing Al-octahedra occur. In wardite, H_2O is
303 not “zeolitic”: the molecule is coordinated to Al, and not to Na in the [100]-cavity. This
304 leads to a different crystal structure of the two mentioned minerals.

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369 **Table and Figure captions**

370 Table 1. Representative compositions of brazilianite from Telírio, based on EPMA-
371 WDS analysis (16 data points). Formula proportions calculated on the basis of 2 atoms
372 of P per formula unit (*a.p.f.u.*)
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374 Table 2. Details of X-ray and neutron data collection and refinements of brazilianite.
375

376 Table 3a. Atomic coordinates and thermal displacement parameters (\AA^2) of brazilianite
377 based on the X-ray structure refinement. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent
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379 of the orthogonalised U_{ij} tensor.
380

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382 based on the neutron structure refinement. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent
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384 of the orthogonalised U_{ij} tensor.
385

386 Table 4a. Principal root-mean-square components (R1, R2 and R3, $\times 10^2 \text{\AA}$) of the
387 atomic displacement parameters based on the X-ray structure refinement.
388

389 Table 4b. Principal root-mean-square components (R1, R2 and R3, $\times 10^2 \text{\AA}$) of the
390 atomic displacement parameters based on the neutron structure refinement.
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392 Table 5. Relevant bond distances (\AA) and angles ($^\circ$) in the brazilianite structure based
393 on the X-ray structure refinement (XSR) and the neutron structure refinement (NSR).
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396 Fig. 1. Two views of the crystal structure of brazilianite (*i.e.* down [100] and [001])
397 based on the neutron structure refinement of this study. Thermal ellipsoid probability
398 factor: 60%. Al-octahedra are in light grey, P-tetrahedra in dark grey, Na sites (medium
399 grey) as un-bonded atoms, H-sites in white.
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401 Fig. 2. Hydrogen sites location, H-bonding scheme and configuration of the Na-
402 polyhedron in the structure of brazilianite based on the neutron structure refinement of
403 this study. The sites H(2a) and H(2b) are mutually exclusive. Thermal ellipsoid
404 probability factor: 60%.
405

406

407 Table 1. Representative compositions of brazilianite from Telirio, based on EPMA-
408 WDS analysis (16 data points). Formula proportions calculated on the basis of 2 atoms
409 of P per formula unit (*a.p.f.u.*)

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	<i>wt%</i>	<i>e.s.d</i>	<i>Ions (a.p.f.u.)</i>	
P ₂ O ₅	39.26	0.48	P	2.000
Al ₂ O ₃	42.40	0.38	Al	3.007
Fe ₂ O ₃	0.04	0.03	Fe ³⁺	0.002
MgO	0.04	0.03	Mg	0.003
SrO	0.05	0.05	Sr	0.002
CaO	0.03	0.01	Ca	0.002
Na ₂ O	8.18	0.18	Na	0.955
K ₂ O	0.01	0.01	K	0.001
H ₂ O*	9.41		OH-	4.001
Total	99.41			

Notes: * calculated on the basis of 4 OH⁻ *a.p.f.u.*. Mn, Ba, Cl and F below detection limit.

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Table 2. Details of the X-ray and neutron data collection and refinements of brazilianite.

Crystal shape	Prismatic	Prismatic
Crystal size (mm ³)	4.2 x 3.6 x 2.8	0.35 x 0.32 x 0.20
Crystal colour	Translucent pink	Translucent pink
Unit-cell constants	$a = 11.243(2)\text{\AA}$ $b = 10.154(2)\text{\AA}$ $c = 7.115(1)\text{\AA}$ $\beta = 97.32(2)^\circ$	$a = 11.2448(5)\text{\AA}$ $b = 10.1539(6)\text{\AA}$ $c = 7.1031(3)\text{\AA}$ $\beta = 97.351(4)^\circ$
Reference chemical formula	NaAl ₃ (PO ₄) ₂ (OH) ₄	NaAl ₃ (PO ₄) ₂ (OH) ₄
Space Group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i>	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i>
<i>Z</i>	4	4
<i>T</i> (K)	293	293
ρ_{calc} (g·cm ⁻³)	2.984	2.989
Radiation (Å)	Neutron, 0.7935(2)	X-ray, Mo- <i>K</i> α
Diffractometer	HEiDi, four circle	XCalibur-CCD
Data-collection strategy: scan type	31 steps, ω-scan at 2θ < 55° ω/2θ -scan at 2θ ≥ 55°	ω-φ scans
time per step (s)	5	5
width; <i>u</i> , <i>v</i> , <i>q</i>	5.4, -12.0, 16.3	1°
Max. 2θ (°)	80.07	72.67
	-18 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 18 -16 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 16 -11 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 11	-18 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 18 -13 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 13 -11 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 11
No. measured reflections	6321	20604*
No. unique reflections	3461	2968
No. unique refl. with $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$	2844	2430
No. refined parameters	211	169
R_{int}	0.0261	0.0392
$R_I(F)$ with $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$	0.0290	0.0325
$R_I(F)$ for all the unique refl.	0.0462	0.0548
$wR_2(F^2)$	0.0474	0.0487
<i>S</i>	1.343	1.422
Weighting Scheme: <i>a</i> , <i>b</i>	0.01, 0	0.01, 0
Residuals (fm/ Å ³)	+0.9/-0.9	+0.4/-0.4
<p>Note: $R_{\text{int}} = \Sigma F_{\text{obs}}^2 - F_{\text{obs}}^2(\text{mean}) / \Sigma [F_{\text{obs}}^2]$; $R_I = \Sigma (F_{\text{obs}} - F_{\text{calc}}) / \Sigma F_{\text{obs}}$; $wR_2 = [\Sigma [w(F_{\text{obs}}^2 - F_{\text{calc}}^2)^2] / \Sigma [w(F_{\text{obs}}^2)^2]]^{0.5}$, $w = 1 / [\sigma^2(F_{\text{obs}}^2) + (aP)^2 + bP]$, $P = (\text{Max}(F_{\text{obs}}^2, 0) + 2 * F_{\text{calc}}^2) / 3$. Neutron ω-scan width: $(u + v * \tan\theta + q * \tan^2\theta)^{0.5}$. *High degree of redundancy.</p>		

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Table 3a. Atomic coordinates and thermal displacement parameters (\AA^2) of brazilianite based on the X-ray structure refinement. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form: $-2\pi^2[(ha^*)^2U_{11} + \dots + 2hka^*b^*U_{12}]$. U_{eq} is defined as one third the trace of the orthogonalised U_{ij} tensor.

	x/a	y/b	c/z	U_{eq}/U_{iso}	U_{11}	U_{22}	U_{33}	U_{12}	U_{13}	U_{23}
Na	0.30332(7)	0.07508(6)	0.03476(9)	0.0239(2)	0.0403(4)	0.0155(4)	0.0166(3)	-0.0053(3)	0.0065(3)	0.0006(3)
Al(1)	0.04325(4)	0.22069(4)	0.56161(5)	0.0058(1)	0.0063(2)	0.0066(2)	0.0046(2)	0.0002(2)	0.0015(1)	-0.0003(2)
Al(2)	0.26290(3)	0.06750(4)	0.50805(5)	0.0057(1)	0.0052(2)	0.0058(2)	0.0061(2)	0.0000(2)	0.0010(1)	-0.0005(2)
Al(3)	0.45940(4)	0.25420(4)	0.43268(5)	0.0055(1)	0.0058(2)	0.0061(2)	0.0047(2)	0.0001(2)	0.0015(1)	0.0005(2)
P(1)	0.18049(3)	0.31231(4)	0.23748(4)	0.00506(7)	0.0049(2)	0.0057(2)	0.0045(1)	0.0002(1)	0.0005(1)	0.0007(1)
P(2)	0.31236(3)	0.32791(4)	0.75393(4)	0.00478(7)	0.0050(2)	0.0050(2)	0.0044(1)	-0.0004(1)	0.0007(1)	-0.0005(1)
O(1)	0.10330(8)	0.07984(9)	0.44944(12)	0.0067(2)	0.0059(4)	0.0067(5)	0.0074(4)	-0.0003(4)	0.0003(3)	-0.0020(4)
O(2)	0.42379(8)	0.10107(9)	0.56258(12)	0.0073(2)	0.0068(4)	0.0078(5)	0.0073(4)	-0.0006(4)	0.0004(3)	0.0003(4)
O(3)	0.00300(8)	0.34973(9)	0.72421(12)	0.0072(2)	0.0082(4)	0.0069(5)	0.0070(4)	-0.0012(4)	0.0023(3)	-0.0014(4)
O(4)	0.49748(8)	0.38585(9)	0.26989(12)	0.0074(2)	0.0091(5)	0.0072(5)	0.0059(4)	-0.0004(4)	0.0012(3)	0.0004(4)
O(5)	0.11484(8)	0.23907(10)	0.06731(13)	0.0087(2)	0.0073(5)	0.0106(5)	0.0079(4)	0.0000(4)	-0.0009(3)	-0.0018(4)
O(6)	0.28766(8)	0.22135(9)	0.31813(12)	0.0071(2)	0.0068(4)	0.0075(5)	0.0070(4)	0.0001(4)	0.0007(3)	0.0007(4)
O(7)	0.22619(8)	0.21329(9)	0.68151(12)	0.0069(2)	0.0075(4)	0.0065(5)	0.0069(4)	-0.0010(4)	0.0013(3)	-0.0017(4)
O(8)	0.38755(8)	0.28025(10)	0.93465(12)	0.0080(2)	0.0067(4)	0.0107(5)	0.0064(4)	0.0000(4)	-0.0002(3)	0.0013(4)
O(9)	0.09990(8)	0.34050(9)	0.39257(12)	0.0077(2)	0.0081(4)	0.0077(5)	0.0080(4)	0.0011(4)	0.0037(3)	0.0007(4)
O(10)	0.39145(8)	0.36733(10)	0.60223(12)	0.0077(2)	0.0092(5)	0.0075(5)	0.0071(4)	-0.0016(4)	0.0037(3)	-0.0005(4)
O(11)	0.22579(8)	0.44660(9)	0.18273(12)	0.0088(2)	0.0105(5)	0.0081(5)	0.0080(4)	-0.0012(4)	0.0017(3)	0.0014(4)
O(12)	0.23569(8)	0.44836(9)	0.79031(12)	0.0075(2)	0.0071(4)	0.0072(5)	0.0081(4)	0.0010(4)	0.0003(3)	-0.0008(4)
H(1)	0.06558	0.01329	0.36283	0.058(7)						
H(2a)	0.46380	0.10177	0.69397	0.05(1)						
H(2b)	0.47657	0.02977	0.53443	0.07(2)						
H(3)	0.07059	0.40794	0.75715	0.052(6)						
H(4)	0.04861	0.04549	0.82972	0.078(8)						

Note: H-sites coordinates fixed to the values from the neutron structure refinement (Table 3b), their thermal parameters refined isotropically.

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492 Table 3b. Atomic coordinates and thermal displacement parameters (\AA^2) of brazilianite
 493 based on the neutron structure refinement. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent
 494 takes the form: $-2\pi^2[(ha^*)^2U_{11} + \dots + 2hka^*b^*U_{12}]$. U_{eq} is defined as one third the trace
 495 of the orthogonalised U_{ij} tensor.

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	x/a	y/b	c/z	U_{eq}	U_{11}	U_{22}	U_{33}	U_{12}	U_{13}	U_{23}
Na	0.30320(11)	0.07526(10)	0.03507(15)	0.0230(2)	0.0378(5)	0.0152(4)	0.0168(4)	-0.0064(4)	0.0068(4)	0.0002(3)
Al(1)	0.04311(6)	0.22082(7)	0.56153(10)	0.0047(1)	0.0047(2)	0.0054(3)	0.0040(3)	0.0000(2)	0.0009(2)	-0.0010(2)
Al(2)	0.26289(6)	0.06763(7)	0.50793(10)	0.0041(1)	0.0029(2)	0.0047(3)	0.0048(3)	0.0000(2)	0.0005(2)	-0.0004(2)
Al(3)	0.45954(6)	0.25430(7)	0.43278(10)	0.0039(1)	0.0039(2)	0.0048(2)	0.0032(3)	0.0001(2)	0.0010(2)	0.0004(2)
P(1)	0.18042(4)	0.31237(5)	0.23765(7)	0.00359(7)	0.0029(2)	0.0046(2)	0.0032(2)	0.0003(1)	0.0000(1)	0.0004(1)
P(2)	0.31242(4)	0.32789(5)	0.75398(7)	0.00331(7)	0.0031(2)	0.0037(2)	0.0032(2)	-0.0004(1)	0.0006(1)	-0.0008(1)
O(1)	0.10308(4)	0.07987(4)	0.44925(6)	0.00550(7)	0.0032(1)	0.0062(2)	0.0069(2)	0.0003(1)	0.0000(1)	-0.0026(1)
O(2)	0.42380(4)	0.10065(4)	0.56264(6)	0.00571(7)	0.0044(2)	0.0064(2)	0.0063(2)	-0.0007(1)	0.0004(1)	0.0017(1)
O(3)	0.00288(4)	0.35011(4)	0.72467(6)	0.00576(7)	0.0063(2)	0.0060(2)	0.0052(2)	-0.0005(1)	0.0016(1)	-0.0010(1)
O(4)	0.49766(4)	0.38570(4)	0.26966(6)	0.00549(7)	0.0062(2)	0.0060(2)	0.0044(2)	-0.0002(1)	0.0009(1)	0.0007(1)
O(5)	0.11452(4)	0.23958(5)	0.06717(7)	0.00685(7)	0.0050(2)	0.0098(2)	0.0052(2)	0.0001(1)	-0.0015(1)	-0.0019(1)
O(6)	0.28757(4)	0.22174(4)	0.31817(6)	0.00495(7)	0.0037(1)	0.0058(2)	0.0051(2)	0.0013(1)	-0.0003(1)	0.0003(1)
O(7)	0.22596(4)	0.21374(4)	0.68144(6)	0.00501(7)	0.0050(1)	0.0050(2)	0.0050(2)	-0.0015(1)	0.0007(1)	-0.0015(1)
O(8)	0.38765(4)	0.28028(4)	0.93474(7)	0.00668(7)	0.0047(2)	0.0097(2)	0.0051(2)	0.0004(1)	-0.0014(1)	0.0014(1)
O(9)	0.10001(4)	0.34063(4)	0.39249(7)	0.00635(7)	0.0068(2)	0.0065(2)	0.0064(2)	0.0012(1)	0.0036(1)	0.0010(1)
O(10)	0.39156(4)	0.36707(4)	0.60208(7)	0.00639(7)	0.0070(2)	0.0072(2)	0.0055(2)	-0.0018(1)	0.0030(1)	-0.0007(1)
O(11)	0.22615(4)	0.44667(4)	0.18277(7)	0.00711(7)	0.0087(2)	0.0059(2)	0.0071(2)	-0.0011(1)	0.0021(1)	0.0023(1)
O(12)	0.23591(4)	0.44861(4)	0.79057(7)	0.00594(7)	0.0058(2)	0.0054(2)	0.0065(2)	0.0012(1)	0.0001(1)	-0.0021(1)
H(1)	0.06558(9)	0.01328(10)	0.36283(15)	0.0214(2)	0.0184(4)	0.0214(4)	0.0232(4)	-0.0038(3)	-0.0016(3)	-0.0098(3)
H(2a)	0.46380(18)	0.10176(22)	0.69397(27)	0.0249(6)	0.0232(9)	0.0351(11)	0.0147(8)	-0.0035(7)	-0.0041(6)	0.0069(7)
H(2b)	0.4766(2)	0.0298(2)	0.5344(4)	0.0250(7)	0.0132(9)	0.0160(10)	0.0468(16)	0.0053(6)	0.0074(8)	0.0044(9)
H(3)	0.07060(11)	0.40794(12)	0.75715(18)	0.0299(2)	0.0329(5)	0.0313(5)	0.0266(5)	-0.0211(5)	0.0072(4)	-0.0090(4)
H(4)	0.04861(10)	0.04550(11)	0.82972(15)	0.0233(2)	0.0255(4)	0.0234(4)	0.0201(4)	0.0117(4)	-0.0003(3)	0.0032(3)

Note: Refined site occupancy factors of H(2a) and H(2b) are 0.546(6) and 0.446(6), respectively.

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Table 4a. Principal root-mean-square components (R1, R2 and R3, x 10² Å) of the atomic displacement parameters based on the X-ray structure refinement.

<i>Site</i>	R1	R2	R3	506 ³
Na	20.4(1)	13.0(1)	11.6(2)	1.76
Al(1)	8.2(1)	8.1(1)	6.5(2)	507
Al(2)	8.1(1)	7.5(1)	7.1(1)	1.14
Al(3)	8.1(1)	7.7(1)	6.3(2)	508
P(1)	7.8(1)	7.0(1)	6.48(8)	1.21
P(2)	7.4(1)	6.9(1)	6.40(8)	509
O(1)	9.6(3)	7.8(3)	6.9(4)	1.38
O(2)	9.2(3)	8.5(3)	8.0(3)	510
O(3)	9.9(2)	8.0(4)	7.4(3)	1.34
O(4)	9.5(3)	8.5(3)	7.5(3)	511
O(5)	10.9(3)	9.4(3)	7.5(3)	1.45
O(6)	8.9(3)	8.3(3)	8.0(3)	512
O(7)	9.4(3)	8.4(3)	7.0(4)	1.34
O(8)	10.5(2)	8.7(3)	7.4(3)	513
O(9)	10.4(2)	8.5(3)	7.1(4)	1.48
O(10)	10.6(2)	8.4(3)	6.9(4)	514
O(11)	10.5(2)	9.6(3)	7.8(4)	1.34
O(12)	9.6(3)	8.5(2)	7.8(3)	515

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534 Table 4b. Principal root-mean-square components (R1, R2 and R3, x 10² Å) of the
 535 atomic displacement parameters based on the neutron structure refinement.

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<i>Site</i>	R1	R2	R3	R1
Na	19.9(1)	12.8(2)	11.3(2)	1.76
Al(1)	7.7(1)	6.9(1)	5.8(3)	1.34
Al(2)	7.2(2)	6.6(2)	5.3(2)	1.36
Al(3)	7.0(1)	6.4(2)	5.2(3)	1.31
P(1)	6.9(1)	5.8(2)	5.1(1)	1.34
P(2)	6.6(2)	5.5(2)	5.1(2)	1.42
O(1)	9.7(1)	6.2(2)	5.66(9)	1.71
O(2)	9.1(1)	6.93(7)	6.3(2)	1.43
O(3)	8.54(6)	7.5(1)	6.6(2)	1.30
O(4)	8.0(1)	7.8(1)	6.3(2)	1.44
O(5)	10.3(1)	8.2(1)	5.48(9)	1.89
O(6)	8.1(1)	7.5(1)	5.29(9)	1.45
O(7)	8.37(6)	7.1(1)	5.57(9)	1.50
O(8)	10.0(1)	8.4(1)	5.39(9)	1.46
O(9)	9.9(1)	7.6(1)	5.9(2)	1.67
O(10)	9.8(1)	7.7(1)	5.9(2)	1.47
O(11)	9.5(1)	9.4(1)	5.8(2)	1.64
O(12)	9.4(1)	7.42(7)	6.0(2)	1.48
H(1)	18.0(1)	14.8(1)	9.9(2)	1.82
H(2a)	19.9(3)	15.5(3)	10.5(4)	1.49
H(2b)	21.8(4)	13.6(3)	9.5(5)	2.30
H(3)	23.4(1)	15.7(2)	10.2(2)	2.50
H(4)	19.1(1)	14.9(2)	10.6(2)	1.79

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558 Table 5. Relevant bond distances (Å) and angles (°) in the brazilianite structure based
 559 on the X-ray structure refinement (XSR) and the neutron structure refinement (NSR).
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	XSR	NSR	
Na – O(8)	2.432(1)	2.433(1)	561
Na – O(11)	2.450(1)	2.452(1)	562
Na – O(6)	2.526(1)	2.528(1)	563
Na – O(3)	2.581(1)	2.581(1)	564
Na – O(12)	2.631(1)	2.637(1)	565
Na – O(9)	2.642(1)	2.643(1)	
Na – O(5)	2.728(1)	2.731(1)	
Na – O(7)	2.909(1)	2.916(1)	566
Na – O(10)	3.106(1)	3.110(1)	
<Na – O>	2.667	2.670	
Al(1) – O(1)	1.809(1)	1.8106(9)	567
Al(1) – O(3)	1.841(1)	1.8464(9)	
Al(1) – O(8)	1.864(1)	1.8620(9)	568
Al(1) – O(9)	1.877(1)	1.8794(9)	
Al(1) – O(4)	1.954(1)	1.9536(9)	569
Al(1) – O(7)	2.125(1)	2.1242(9)	
<Al(1) – O>	1.912	1.9127	570
Al(2) – O(1)	1.794(1)	1.7963(8)	
Al(2) – O(2)	1.833(1)	1.8324(9)	571
Al(2) – O(11)	1.845(1)	1.8458(9)	
Al(2) – O(12)	1.873(1)	1.8738(9)	572
Al(2) – O(7)	2.003(1)	2.0071(9)	573
Al(2) – O(6)	2.106(1)	2.1081(9)	
<Al(2) – O>	1.909	1.9106	574
Al(3) – O(4)	1.853(1)	1.8541(9)	
Al(3) – O(2)	1.877(1)	1.8825(9)	575
Al(3) – O(5)	1.883(1)	1.8787(9)	
Al(3) – O(10)	1.895(1)	1.8923(9)	576
Al(3) – O(3)	1.932(1)	1.9333(9)	577
Al(3) – O(6)	2.025(1)	2.0275(9)	
<Al(3) – O>	1.911	1.9114	578
P(1) – O(11)	1.523(1)	1.5256(7)	
P(1) – O(5)	1.527(1)	1.5289(7)	579
P(1) – O(9)	1.540(1)	1.5386(7)	
P(1) – O(6)	1.567(1)	1.5654(7)	580
<P(1) – O>	1.539	1.5396	581
P(2) – O(8)	1.523(1)	1.5251(7)	
P(2) – O(10)	1.535(1)	1.5373(7)	582
P(2) – O(12)	1.537(1)	1.5386(7)	
P(2) – O(7)	1.559(1)	1.5578(7)	583
<P(2) – O>	1.539	1.5397	584
O(1) – H(1)	0.974(1)	0.973(1)	585
O(1) – H(1)*		0.994	
O(1) – O(4)	2.672(1)	2.673(1)	586
H(1) – O(4)	1.701(1)	1.703(1)	
O(1) – H(1) ··· O(4)	174.1(1)	174.2(1)	587
O(2) – H(2a)	0.983(1)	0.984(1)	588
O(2) – H(2a)*		1.010	589
O(2) – O(9)	2.929(1)	2.933(1)	
H(2a) – O(9)	2.031(1)	2.033(2)	590
O(2) – H(2a) ··· O(9)	151.0(1)	151.2(2)	591
O(2) – H(2b)	0.973(1)	0.970(1)	592
O(2) – H(2b)*		0.997	
O(2) – O(2)	2.886(1)	2.881(1)	593
H(2b) – O(2)	1.922(1)	1.919(3)	
O(2) – H(2b) ··· O(2)	170.8(1)	170.8(2)	594
O(3) – H(3)	0.968(1)	0.966(1)	595
O(3) – H(3)*		1.001	596
O(3) – O(12)	2.785(1)	2.788(1)	
H(3) – O(12)	1.886(1)	1.889(1)	597
O(3) – H(3) ··· O(12)	153.3(1)	153.6(1)	598
O(4) – H(4)	0.967(1)	0.968(1)	599
O(4) – H(4)*		0.992	
O(4) – O(10)	2.894(1)	2.898(1)	600
H(4) – O(10)	1.969(1)	1.972(1)	
O(4) – H(4) ··· O(10)	159.4(1)	159.4(1)	601
			602

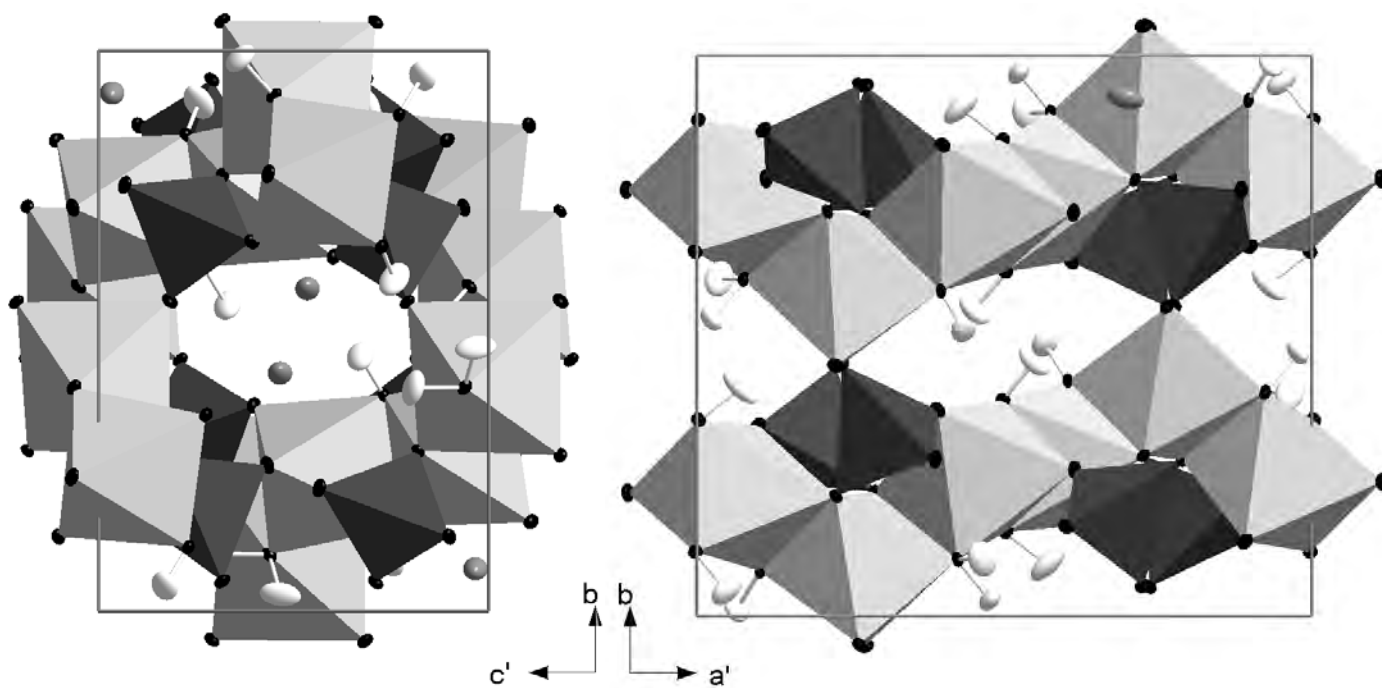
* Bond distance corrected for "riding motion" following Busing and Levy (1964).

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606 Fig. 1. Two views of the crystal structure of brazilianite (*i.e.* down [100] and [001])
607 based on the neutron structure refinement of this study. Thermal ellipsoid probability
608 factor: 60%. Al-octahedra are in light grey, P-tetrahedra in dark grey, Na sites (medium
609 grey) as un-bonded atoms, H-sites in white.

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628 Fig. 2. Hydrogen sites location, H-bonding scheme and configuration of the Na-
 629 polyhedron in the structure of brazilianite based on the neutron structure refinement of
 630 this study. The sites H(2a) and H(2b) are mutually exclusive. Thermal ellipsoid
 631 probability factor: 60%.
 632

